



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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South Forsyth Middle School Student Represents Forsyth County in Water Essay Contest

Callie Tobin, a student at South Forsyth Middle School, is the Forsyth County winner in the seventh annual water conservation and water quality essay contest, sponsored by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District (Metro Water District). The Metro Water District is a planning entity dedicated to developing comprehensive watershed, wastewater and water supply and water conservation plans to be implemented by local governments in the 15-county metro Atlanta region. The Clean Water Campaign and Water Use It Wisely are public education campaigns designed to educate and promote behavior changes in water conservation and water quality.

Forsyth County Commissioner Brian Tam will present Callie Tobin with her County Award at South Forsyth Middle School on Thursday, November 13, 2008. Commissioner Tam said, "Forsyth County works hard to educate the public about conserving and protecting our water resources. Forsyth County organizes many educational programs through Keep Forsyth Beautiful and Forsyth County Water and Sewer Department. Activities include stream-monitoring workshops, storm drain stenciling, habitat enhancement programs and providing lesson plans and activities to our teachers." Callie's essay outlines a few additional ways Forsyth County can contribute to preserving our water supply. In her essay she says, "One of the easiest ways to conserve is to turn off the water while you are brushing your teeth, take shorter showers and use rain barrels to collect rain so you can water your landscaping with the collected water."

The two campaigns, Clean Water Campaign and Water Use It Wisely, teamed up to encourage children and parents to address the growing need to improve water quality and water conservation efforts in Georgia. Students researched and shared their thoughts on why conserving water and preventing water pollution are important for the future of their rivers, lakes and streams. The main goal of this program is to encourage students to create inventive solutions to water conservation and water quality in metro North Georgia.

The contest was open to sixth, seventh and eighth graders in Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb,

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Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, Rockdale and Walton Counties. Each participating school submitted its winning essay for the county competition, and one overall winner was selected among the county winners. The District Winner receives a \$100 check and County winners receive a \$25 check along with a certificate presented by a county representative.

To view the names of the winners, and read the winning essays please visit, the Clean Water Campaign website at www.cleanwatercampaign.com.

About the Campaigns

*The **Clean Water Campaign** (www.cleanwatercampaign.com) is a cooperative, multi-agency education initiative spearheaded by local governments in metro Atlanta, supported by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District and managed by the Atlanta Regional Commission. Its mission is to build awareness of water quality problems and solutions in the 16-county District.*

***Water- Use It Wisely** (www.wateruseitwisely.com) is a program that educates consumers about simple water conservation measures. It is a multi-state program that is being sponsored in the metro Atlanta area by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.*

***South Forsyth Middle School** is located at 2865 Old Atlanta Road, Cumming, GA 30041. For more information about the school or student, please call 770-888-3170.*

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